

Amendments to the Specification

I. Please add the following new paragraph at the beginning of page 1.

---This application is a continuation of United States Patent Application Serial No. 10/041,046 filed January 9, 2002---.

II. Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 4 and ending on page 4, line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

Referring to the drawings, the driver ~~+~~ D of the present invention, which may be a screwdriver, comprises a handle ~~+~~ 2 and a ratchet control assembly 3 operatively associated with the handle 2 and rotatable relative thereto. The ratchet control assembly 3 comprises a plug 4, mounted in the handle 2 by its foot 5, and an integral head 6 extending above the handle 2. The head 6 ~~has~~ comprises ~~has~~ an integral upwardly extending neck 7 which has an annular groove 16 therein and ~~an~~ An integral ledge 17 is located between the foot 5 and to the head 6 neck 7 of the ratchet control assembly. A driver assembly 10 is rotatably mounted on the head 6 of the ratchet control assembly 3 and comprises shank 8 and an upstanding stem 9. The stem 9 has an adaptor 13 mounted thereon into which various types of drive bits may be mounted. A ratchet sleeve 15 surrounds the head 6 of the ratchet control assembly 3 and shank 8 of the driver assembly 10 and rests on the said ledge 17 ~~of the ratchet control assembly.~~ The shank 8 and ~~of~~ the ratchet sleeve 15 are connected together by pin 11 so as they can rotate together. The pin 11 extends in the groove 16 to maintain the axial relationship of the ratchet sleeve 15 and the shank 8 and to permit the driver assembly 10 (shank 8 and stem 9) and the ratchet sleeve 15 to rotate together relative to the ratchet control assembly 3 (head 6, neck 7 and ledge 17). An outer cover 12 overlies and is rotatable relative to the ratchet sleeve 15, the shank 8 and the head 6.

III. Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 10 and ending on page 5, line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

The ratchet sleeve ~~11~~ 15 has a plurality of control grooves 20 therein opening inwardly along its inner surface. The head 6 has a pair of inwardly extending slots 21 and 22 therein which are preferably parallel to each other. Within each slot 21-22 is mounted a stop slide 23-24, respectively, each of which are spring biased outwardly toward control grooves 20 in the ratchet sleeve 11 by a spring 25 so that their outer edges 23 A - 24 A, respectively, enter into two of the grooves 20 (e.g. grooves 20A and 20B) of the ratchet sleeve 15.

IV. Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 10 and ending on page 5, line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

A control cam 30 is mounted in an outer groove ~~31~~ 31A formed in the head 6 ~~ratchet sleeve 15~~ so that it lies between the ~~outer cover 12~~ head 6 and the ratchet sleeve 15 and is movable back and forth within the outer groove ~~31~~ 31A along the same plane or path. The control cam 30 is narrow, elongated and curved with tapered outer ~~edges~~ ends 31 and 32 (Fig. 8). The control cam 30 has a pin 33 which extends outwardly from its lower end and which extends through the outer cover 12. In order to move the control cam 30 in one direction or the other, the outer cover 12 is rotated in one direction or the other so as to move the control cam 30 in either direction through the intermediation of the pin 33.